Fragmenta Regalia
OR
OBSERVATIONS
ON
THE LATE QUEEN
ELIZABETH,
Her Times and Favourites.

Written by Sir *Robert Naunton*,
Master of the Court of Wards.

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ELIZABETH,

Her Times and Favourites.

TO take her in the originall, She was daughter to *Henry* the eighth, by *Anne Bullen*, the second of six Wives, which He had, and one of the Maids of Honour to the divorced Queen *Katherine* of *Austria* (or as they now style it) *Infanta* of *Spain*, and from thence taken into the Royall Bed.

That She was not of a most Noble and Royall extract by Her Father, will not fall into question, for on that side there was disimbogued into her veins by a confluence of Bloud, the very abstract of all the greatest houses in Christendom, and remarkable it is (concerning that violent desertion of the Royall House of the *Britains*, by the invasion of the *Saxons*, and afterwards by the Conquest of the *Normans*, that by their vicissitude of times, and through a discontinuance (almost a thousand yeers) the Royall Scepter should fall back into the Current of the old Brittish Bloud, in the person of Her renowned Grandfather, *Henry* the seventh, together with whatsoever the *German*, *Norman*, *Burgundian*, *Castilian*, and *French* atchievements with the intermarriages, which eight hundred yeers had acquired, incorporated, and brought back into the old Royall Ryne.

By Her Mother She was of no Soveraign descent, yet Noble, and very Ancient in the Name, and Family of *Bullen*, though some erroniously brand it with a Citizens rise, or originall, which was yet but

of a ſecond Brother, who (as it were) divining the greatneſſe, and luſtre to come to his Houſe, was ſent into the City to acquire wealth, *ad ædificandum antiquam domum*, unto whoſe atchievements (for he was Lord Major of *London*) fell in as it was averred, both the bloud and inheritance of the eldeſt Brother, for want of iſſue Male, by which accumulation the houſe within a few deſcents mounted in *Culmen honoris*, and was ſuddenly elated into the beſt Families of *England*, and *Ireland*, as *Howard, Grenvil, Sackvile*, and divers others. Having thus toucht, and now leaving Her ſtrip, I come to Her Perſon; and as She came to the Crown by the deceaſe of Her Brother and Siſter; under *Edward* She was His, and one of the darlings of Fortune, for beſides the conſideration of Bloud, there was between theſe two Princes, a concurrency, and ſympathy in their Natures, and affections, together with the Celeſtiall bond (conformity in Religion) which made them one, and friends, for the King ever called Her His ſweeteſt and deereſt Siſter, and was ſcarce His own man, She being abſent, which was not ſo between Him and the Lady *Mary*. Vnder His Siſter, She found Her condition much altered: For it was reſolved, and Her deſtiny had decreed to ſet Her an Apprentice in the School of Affliction, and to draw Her through the Ordeall fire of tryall, tho better to mould and faſhion Her, to rule, and Soveraignty; which finiſhed, and Fortune calling to minde, that the time of Her ſervitude was expired, gave up Her Indentures, and therewith delivered up into Her cuſtody a Scepter, as a reward for Her patience, which was about the twenty ſixth yeer of Her Age; a time in which (as for externals) She was full blown, ſo was She for Her internals grown ripe, and ſeaſoned with adverſity, and in the exerciſe of Her Vertue, for it ſeems Fortune meant no more, then to ſhew Her a peece of Her variety, and changeableneſſe of Her Nature, and ſo to conduct Her to Her deſtined Felicity. She was of perſonage tall, of hair and complexion fair, and therewith well favoured, but high noſed, of lymbs, and feature neat, and which added to the luſtre of thoſe exteriour Graces, of Stately, and Majeſtick comportment, participating in this more of Her Father then Mother, who was of an inferiour allay, plauſable, or as the French hath it, more debonare, and affable, vertues which might well ſuite with Majeſty, and which deſcending, as Hereditary to the Daughter, did render Her of a more ſweeter temper, and endeared Her more to the love and liking of the people, who gave Her the name and fame of a moſt gratious and popular Prince, the atrocity of Her Fathers nature, being rebated in Hers, by the Mothers ſweeter inclinations for to take, and that no more then the Character out of His own mouth, He never ſpared man in His anger, nor woman in His luſt.

If we ſearch further into Her intellectuals and abilities, the whole courſe

course of Her Government deciphers them to the admiration of posterity, for it was full of magnanimity tempered with Iustice, and Piety, and to speak truely, noted but with one act or taint, all Her deprivations either of life or liberty, being legall, and necessitated: She was learned (Her sex, and the time considered) beyond common belief; for letters about this time, and somewhat before, began to be of esteem, and in fashion, the former ages being overcast with the mists and fogs of the Roman ignorance, and it was the maxime that overruled the foregoing times, that ignorance was the mother of devotion. Her warres were along time more, in the auxiliary part, in assistance of forraign Princes, and States, then by invasion of any, till common policy advised it for a safer way, to strike first abroad, then at home to expect the warre, in all which she was felicious, and victorious. The change and alteration of Religion upon the instant of Her accession (the smoak and fire of Her Sisters Martyrdoms, scarcely quenched) was none of Her least remarkable accounts, But the support and establishment thereof, with the means of Her subsistence amidst so powerfull enemies abroad, and those many domestike practises, were (methinks) works of inspiration, and of no humane providence, which on Her Sisters departure, She most religiously acknowledged, ascribing the glory of Her deliverance to God alone, for She received the news both of the Queens death, and Her Proclamation, by the generall consent of the House, and the publike suffrage of the people; whereat, falling on her knees (after a good time of respiration) she uttered this Verse of the *Psalms*. *A domino factum est istud, & est mirabile in oculis nostris*. which we finde to this day on the stamp of Her gold, with this on Her silver, *Posui Deum adiutorem meum*. Her Ministers and Instruments of State, such as were *participes curarum*, and bare a great part of the burthen, were many, and those memorable, but they were only Favorites, not Minions; such as acted more by her own Princely rules and judgements, then by their own wills and appetites, which she observed to the last: for we finde no *Gaveston*, *Verr*, or *Spencer*, to have swayed alone, during forty four yeers, which was a well settled, and advised maxime, for it valued her the more, it awed the most secure, and it took best with the people, and it starved all emulations, which are apt to rise and vent in obloquious acrimony (even against the Prince) where there is onely, *A Main Palatii*.

The principall note of her raign, will be, that she ruled much by faction and parties, which her self, both made, upheld, and weakned, as her own great judgement advised, for I dissent from the common received opinion, that my Lord of *Leicester* was absolute and above all in her Grace: And though I come somewhat short of the knowledge of those times; yet (that I might not rove, and shoot at random) I know it from assured intelligence, that it was not so,

for proof whereof (among many that I could present) I will both relate, a short, and therein a known truth; And it was thus, *Bowyer* a Gentleman of the Black-rod, being charged by her expresse command, to look precisely to all admissions into the Privy Chamber, one day stayed a very gay Captain, and a follower of my Lord of *Leicesters*, from entrance; For that he was neither well known, nor a sworn servant to the Queen, at which repulse the Gentleman bearing high on my Lords favour, told him, he might perchance procure him a discharge: *Leicester* coming into the Contestation, said publikely (which was none of his wont) that he was a Knave, and should not continue long in his office; and so turning about to go into the Queen, *Bowyer* (who was a bold Gentleman, and welbeloved) stept before him, and fell at Her Majesties feet, related the story, and humbly craves Her Graces pleasure; and whether my Lord of *Leicester* was King, or Her Majesty Queen; whereunto She replyed, with Her wonted oath (Gods death) my Lord, I have wisht you well, but my favour is not so lockt up for you, that others shall not partake thereof, for I have many servants, unto whom I have, and will at my pleasure bequoath my favour, and likewise resume the same, and if you think to rule here, I will take a course to see you forth coming, I will have here but one Mistris, and no Master; and look that no ill happen to him, least it be severely required at your hands, which so quelled my Lord of *Leicester*, that his famed humility, was long after one of his best vertues; Moreover the Earl of *Sussex*, then Lord Chamberlain, was his profest Antagonist to his dying day; and for my Lord of *Hunsdon*, and Sir *Thomas Sackvile*, after Lord Treasurer (who were all Contemporaries) he was wont to say of them, that they were of the Tribe of *Dan*, and were *Noli me tangere*, implying, that they were not to be contested with, for they were indeed of the Queens neer kindred, from whence, and in more instances I conclude that she was absolute and Soveraign Mistris of Her Graces; and that all those, to whom, she distributed Her favours, were never more then Tenants at will, and stood on no better ground then her Princely pleasure, and their own good behaviour; and this also I present as a known observation, that she was (though very capable of Councell) absolute enough in her own resolutions, which was ever apparent even to her last, in that her aversation to grant *Tyrone* the least drop of her mercy, though earnestly and frequently advised; yea wrought only by the whole Counsell of State, with very many pressing reasons; and as the state of Her Kingdom then stood (I may speak it with assurance) necessitated Arguments. If we look into Her inclination, as it is disposed either to magnificence, or frugality, we shall finde in them many notable considerations, for all Her dispensations were so poysed, as though discretion and Iustice had both agreed to stand at the Beam and see them

weighed

weighed out in due proportion, the maturity of Her yeers, and judgement meeting in a concurrency, and at such an age as seldome lapseth to excesse. To consider them apart. We have not many presidents of Her liberality, or of any large donatives to particular men; my Lord of *Essex* Book of *Parks* only excepted, which was a Princely gift, and some few more of a lesser size to my Lord of *Leicester*, *Hatton*, and others. Her reward consisted chiefly in grants of Leases, of Offices, places of Judicature, but for ready money, and in any great summes, she was very sparing, which we partly conceive was a vertue rashor drawn out by necessity, then her nature, for she had many layings out, and to her last period. And I am of opinion with Sir *Walter Rawleigh*, that those many brave men of our times, and of the *Militia*, tasted little more of her bounty, then in her grace, and good word with their due entertainment, for she ever paid the Souldiers vvell, vvhich vvas the honour of her times, and more then her great adversary of *Spain* could perform, so that vvhen vve come to the consideration of her frugality, the observation vvill be little more, then that her bounty and it vvere so vvoven together, that the one vvas suited by an honourable vvay of spending, the other limited by a necessitated way of sparing. The Irish action vve may call a mallady, and a Consumption of her times, for it accompanied her to her end, and it vvas of so profuse, and vast an expence, that it drevv neer a distemperature of State, and of passion in her self; For tovvard her last she grew somewhat hard to please, her Arms being accustomed to prosperity, and the Irish persecution, not answering her expectation, and wonted successe for a good while, it was an unthrifty, and inauspitious warre which did much disturbe, and mislead her judgement; and the more for that it was a president, which was taken out of her own Pattern; for as the Queen (by way of diversion) had at the coming to the Crown, supported the revolted States of *Holland*, so did the King of *Spain* turn the trick on her self towards her going out, by cherishing the Irish rebellion, where it falls into consideration, what the State of the Kingdom, and the Crown Revenues were then ably to embrace, and endure; if we look into the establishment of those times, with the list of the Irish Army, considering the defeatments of Blackwater, withall precedent expences, as it stood from my Lord of *Essex*, undertaking to the surrender of Kingsale under the Generall *Mountioy*; and somewhat after, we shall finde the horse and foot Troops, were for three or four yeers together much about 20000. Which besides, The Navall charge which was a dependant of the same Warre; in that the Queen was then forced to keep in continuall pay, a strong Fleet at Sea, to attend the Spanish Coasts, and Ports, both to Allarum the Spaniard, and to interpret his Forces designed for the Irish assistance, so that the charge of that Warre alone, did

cost

War alone, did coſt the Queen 300000 *per annum* at leaſt, which was not the Moytie of her other diſburſments, an expence which (without the publique aid) the State, and the Royall receipts, could not have much longer endured, which out of her own frequent Letters and complaints to the Deputy *Mountjoy*, for caſheering part of that Liſt as ſoon as he could, may be collected, for the Queen was then driven into a ſtrait.

We are naturally prone to applaud the times behinde us, and to vilifie the preſent; for the current of her fame carries it to this day, how Royally and victoriouſly ſhe lived and dyed, without the grievance and grudge of the people, yet that truth may appear without retraction from the Honour of ſo great a Princeſſe. It is manifeſt ſhe left more debts unpayed, taken upon the credit of her Privy Seals, then her Progenitors did, or could have taken up that way in a hundred yeers before her; which was an enforced piece of State, to lay the burthen on that horſe, that was beſt able to bear it, at the dead liſt, when neither her receipts could yeeld her relief at the pinch, nor the urgency of her affairs endure the delayes of a Parliamentary aſſiſtance: And for ſuch aids it is likewiſe apparent, That ſhe received more, and with the love of the people, then any two of her Predeceſſors, that took moſt; which was a Fortune ſtrained out of the Subject, through the plauſability of her Comportment, and, as I would ſay without offence, the prodigall diſtribution of her Graces to all ſorts of Subject: For I believe, no Prince living, that was ſo tender of Honour, and ſo exactly ſtood for the preſervation of Soveraignty, that was ſo great a Courtier of her people, yea, of the Commons, and that ſtoopt and deſcended lower in preſenting her perſon to the publique view, as ſhe paſt in her Progreſſes and Perambulations, And in the ejaculation of her prayers on her people: An truely, Though much may be given in praiſe of her magnanimity, and therwith comply with her Parliaments, and for all that come off at laſt with honour and profit; yet muſt we aſcribe ſome part of the commendation to the wiſdomes of the times, and the choice of Parliament-men; for I finde not that they were at any time given to any violent or pertinatious diſpute, elections being made of grave and diſcreet perſons, not factious and ambitious of fame, ſuch as came not to the Houſe with a malevolent ſpirit of contention, but with a preparation to conſult on the publike good, rather to comply then conteſt with her Majeſty; neither do I finde that the Houſe was at any time weakned and peſtered with the admiſſion of too many young heads, as it hath been of later times, which remembers me of Recorder *Martins* Speech, about the tenth of our late Soveraign Lord King *James*, when there were accounts taken of forty Gentlemen, not above twenty, and ſome not exceeding ſixteen, which moved him to ſay, That it was the ancient cuſtome for old men to make

make Laws for young ones, but that then he ſaw, the caſe altered, and that there were children elected unto the great Councell of the Kingdom, which came to invade and invert nature, and to inact Laws to govern their Fathers: Sure we are, The houſe alwayes took the common cauſe into their conſideration, and they ſaw the Queen had juſt occaſion, and need enough to uſe their aſſiſtance, neither do I remember that the houſe did ever Capitulate or preferre their private to the publike, &c. The Queens neceſſities, but waited their times, and in the firſt place gave their ſupply, and according to the exigency of her affairs, yet failed not at laſt to obtain what they deſired, ſo that the Queen and her Parliaments had ever the good Fortune to depart in love, and on reciprocall tearms, which are conſiderations vvhich have not been ſo exactly obſerved in our laſt aſſemblies, as they might, and I vvould to God they had been, for conſidering the great debt left on the King, and in vvhat incumbrances the houſe it ſelf had then drayvn him, his Majeſty vvas not vvell uſed, though I lay not the blame on the vvhole ſuffrage of the houſe, vvhere he had many good friends, for I dare avouch, had the houſe been freed of half a dozen of popular and diſcontented perſons, ſuch (as vvith the fellovv that burnt the Temple at *Epheſus*) vvould be talked of, though but for doing of miſchief, I am confident the King had obtained, that vvhich in reaſon, and at his firſt acceſſion, he ought to have received freely, and vvithout any condition. But pardon the digreſſion, vvhich is here remembred, not in the vvay of aggravation, but in true zeal to the publike good, and preſented in caveat to future times, for I am not ignorant hovv the ſpirit of the Kingdom novv moves to make His Majeſty amends on any occaſion, and hovv deſirous the Subject is to expiate that offence at any rate, may it pleaſe His Majeſty gratiouſly to make tryall of his Subjects affection, and at vvhat price they novv value his goodneſſe and magnanimity. But to our purpoſe, the Queen vvas not to learn, that as the ſtrength of her Kingdom conſiſted in the multitude of her Subjects, for the ſecurity of her perſon reſted in the love and fidelity of her people, vvhich ſhe politiquely affected (as it hath been thought) ſomevvhat beneath the hight of her ſpirit, and naturall magnanimity. Moreover it vvill be a true note of her providence, that ſhe vvould alvvayes liſten to her profit, for ſhe vvould not refuſe the informations of mean perſons, vvith purpoſed improvement, and had learned the Phyloſophy of *Hoc agere*, to look into her ovvn vvork, of the vvhich there is a notable example of one *Carvarden* an under Officer of the cuſtome houſe, vvho obſerving his time, preſented her vvith a paper, ſhevving hovv ſhe vvas abuſed in the under renting of her cuſtomes, and therevvithall humbly deſired Her Majeſty to conceal him, for that it did concern tvvo or three of her great Councellors, vvhom

cuſtomer *Smith* had bribed with 200. a man, ſo to looſe the Queen 2000. *per annum*, which being made known to the Lords, they gave ſtrickt order, that *Carward'n* ſhould not have acceſſe to the back ſtairs, till at laſt her Majeſty ſmelling the craft, and miſſing *Carwarden*, ſhe ſent for him back, and encouraged him to ſtand to his information, which the poor man did ſo handſomely, that within the ſpace of ten yeers, he brought *Smith* to double his rent, or to leave the cuſtomes to new Farmers, ſo that we may take this alſo into obſervation, that there were of the Queens Councell that were not in the Catalogue of Saints.

Now as we have taken a view of ſome particular notions of her times, her nature, and neceſſities, it is not without the text, to give a ſhort touch on the helps and advantages of her raign, which were without parallell, for ſhe had neither husband, brother, ſiſter, nor children to provide for, who as they are dependants of the Crown, ſo do they neceſſarily draw maintenance from thence, and do oftentimes exhauſt and draw deep, eſpecially vvhen there is an ample fraternity of the bloud Royall, and of the Princes of the Bloud, as it vvas in the time of *Edward* the third, and *Henry* the fourth; for then vvhen the Crovvn cannot, the publike ought to give them honourable allovvance, for they are the honour and hopes of the Kingdom, and the publike vvhich injoyes them, hath alike intereſt in them, vvith the Father that begot them; and our Common-Lavv, vvhich is the heritance of the Kingdom, did ever of old provide ayds for the *primogenitures*, and the eldeſt daughter; ſo that the multiplicity of Courts, and the great charge vvhich neceſſarily follovv a King, and Queen, a Prince, and the Royall iſſue, vvas a thing vvhich vvas not *in rerum natura*, during the ſpace of forty yeers, and vvhich by time vvas vvorn out of memory, and vvithout the conſideration of the preſent times. Inſomuch, that the aydes given to the late and right noble Prince *Henry*, and to his Siſter the Lady *Elizabeth*, vvere at firſt generally received for impoſitions of a nevv Coynage. Yea the late impoſitions for Knighthood (though an ancient Lavv) fell alſo into the imputation of a tax of novelty, for that it lay long covered in the embers of diviſion, betvveen the Houſes of *York*, and *Lancaſter*, and forgotten, or connived at by the ſucceeding Princes, So that the ſtrangeneſſe of the obſervation, and the difference of thoſe latter raignes is, that the Queen took up beyond the povver of the Lavv, vvhich fell not into the murmure of the people, and her ſucceſſors nothing but by vvarrant of the Lavv, vvhich nevertheleſſe vvas conceived (through diſuſe) to be injurious to the liberty of the Kingdom.

Novv before I come to any further mention of her Favourites (for hitherto I have delivered, but ſome obvious paſſages, thereby to prepare and ſmooth a vvay for the reſt that follovvs) it is requiſite that

that I touch on the reliques of the elder raign, I mean the body of Her Sisters Councell of State, which she retained intire; neither removing, nor discontenting any, although she knew them averse to her Religion (and in her Sisters time perverse towards her person) and private to her troubles and imprisonment; A prudence which was incompatible with her Sisters nature, for she both dissipated and persecuted the major part of her brothers Councell: But this will be of certainty, that how compliable soever, and obsequious she found them, yet for a good space she made little use of their Councels, more then in the ordinary course of the board: for she held a dormant Table in her own Princely brest, yet she kept them together, and their places without any sudden change; so that we may say of them, That they were of the Court, not of the Councell, for whilest she amazed them with a kinde of premissive disputation, concerning the points controverted by both Churches, she did set down her own reservations, without their privity, and made all her progressions gradations. But so that the tenents of her secrecy with intent of her establishment, were pitcht before it was known where the Court would sit down; Neither do I finde that any of her sisters Councell of state were either repugnant to her religion, or eppoled her doings (*Englefield*, Master of the horse excepted) who withdrew himself from the board, and shortly after from out her Dominions, so plyable and obedient they were to change with the times, and their Princes, end of this there will fall in here a relation both of recreation, and of known truth. *Powlet* Marquesse of *Winchester*, and Lord Treasurer, having served then four Princes in as various and changeable season, that I may well say, time, nor any age hath yeilded the like president.

This man being noted to grow high in her favour (as his place, and experience required) was questioned by an intimate friend of his, how he stood up for thirty yeers together amidst the charges, and raigns of so many Chancellors and great Personages, why quoth the Marquesse, *Ortus sum ex salice, non ex quercu*, I was made of the plyable Willow, not of the stubborn Oak, and truely the old man hath taught them all, especially *William* Earl of *Pembroke*, for they two were alwayes of the Kings Religion, and ever-zealous professers. Of this it is said, That being both younger Brothers (yet of Noble Houses) they spent what was left them, and come on trust to the Court: Where upon the bare stock of their Wits, they began to traffick for themselves, and prospred so well, that they got, spent, and left more then any Subjects from the *Norman* Conquest, to their own times; whereunto it hath been pretily replyed, that they lived in a time of dissolution.

To conclude then, of any of the former raign, it is said, that these

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two lived and dyed, chiefly, in her favour. The latter upon his ſonnes marriage, with the Lady *Katherine Grey*, was like utterly to have loſt himſelf, but at the inſtant of the conſummation, apprehending the inſafety, and danger of an intermarriage with the bloud Royall, he fell at the Queens feet, where he both acknowledged his preſumption with teares, and projected the cauſe, and the divorce together and ſo quick he was at his work, for it ſtood him upon that upon repudiation of the Lady, he clapt up a marriage for his ſonne the Lord *Herbert* with *Mary Sidney* Daughter to Sir *Henry Sydney*, then Lord Deputy of *Ireland*, the blow falling on *Edward* late Earl of *Hereford*, who (to his coſt) took up the divorced Lady, of whom the Lord *Beauchamp* was born. and *William* Earl of *Hereford* is deſcended. I come now to preſent thoſe of her own Election, which ſhe either admitted to her ſecrets of State, or took into her grace and favour, of whom in their order, I crave leave to give unto poſterity a cautious deſcription, with a ſhort Character, or draught of the perſons themſelves; For without offence to others, I would be true to my ſelf, their memories and merits diſtinguiſhing them of the *Militie*, from the *Togati*, and of theſe ſhe had as many, and thoſe as able Miniſters, as any of her Progenitors.

Leiceſter.

IT will be out of doubt, that my Lord of *Leiceſter* was one of the firſt whom ſhe made Maſter of the Horſe, he was the youngeſt Sonne, then living, of the Duke of *Northumberland*, beheaded *primo Mariæ*, and his Father was that *Dudly*, which our Hiſtories couple with *Empſon*; and both ſo much infamed for the Caterpillars of the Common-wealth, during the raign of *Henry* the ſeventh; who being a Noble extract, was executed the firſt yeer of *Henry* the eighth, but not thereby ſo extinct, but that he left a plentifull eſtate, and ſuch a Sonne, who, as the vulgar ſpeaks it, could live without the tear; for out of the Aſhes of his Fathers infamy, he roſe to be a Duke, and as high, as ſubjection could permit, or Soveraignty endure; and though he could not finde out any appellation to aſſume the Crown in his own Perſon, yet he projected, and very neerly effected it for his Sonne *Guilbert*, by intermarriage with the Lady *Iane Grey*, and ſo by that way to bring it about into his loynes. Obſervations, which though they lye behinde us, and ſeem impertinent to the Text, yet are they not much extravagant, for they muſt lead, and ſhew us how the after paſſages were brought about with the dependances, and on the hinges of a collaterall workmanſhip: and truly, it may amaze a well ſettled judgement, to look back into thoſe times, and to conſider how this Duke could attain to ſuch a pitch of greatneſſe, his Father dying in ignominy, and at the Gallows, his eſtate confiſcate, and

that

that for peeling and polling, by the clamor, and crucifige of the people, but when we better think upon it, we finde that he was given up, but as a Sacrifice to pleaſe the people, not for any offence committed againſt the perſon of the King, ſo that upon the matter he was a Martyr of the Prerogative, and the King in honour could do no leſſe, then give back to his Son the priviledge of his bloud, with the acquitings of his Fathers profeſſion. for he was a Lawyer, and of the Kings Counſell, at Law before he came to be *ex interioribus conſiliis*, where beſides the licking of his own fingers, he got the King a Maſſe of riches, and that not with the hazard, but the loſſe of his fame and life for the Kings Father ſake. Certain it is, that his ſonne was left rich in purſe and brain, which are good foundations, and full to ambition, and it may be ſuppoſed, he was on all occaſions well heard of the King, as a perſon of mark and compaſſion in his eye, but I finde not that he did put up for advencement, during *Henry* the eights time, although a vaſt aſpirer, and provident ſtorier. It ſeems he thought the Kings raign was much given to the falling ſickneſſe, but eſpying his time fitting, and the Soveraignty in the hands of a pupill Prince, he thought he might as well, then put up for it, as the beſt, for having then poſſeſſion of bloud, and a purſe, with a head-peece of a vaſt extent, hee ſoone got honour, and no ſooner there, but he began to ſide it with the beſt, even with the Protector? and in concluſion got his, and his Brothers heads, ſtill aſpyring, till he expired, in the loſſe of his own, ſo that poſterity may by reading the Father and the Grandfather, make judgement of the ſonne; for we ſhall finde that this *Robert* (whoſe originall we have now traced the better to preſent him) was inheritor of the genius, and craft of his Father; and *Ambroſe*, of the eſtate, of whom hereafter we ſhall make ſome ſhort mention.

We take him now as he was admitted into the Court, and the Queens favour, where he was not to ſeek to play his part well, and dexteriouſly. But his play was chiefly at the forgame, nor that he was a learner at the latter, but he loved not the after wit, for they report (and I think not untruely) that he was ſeldom behinde hand with his Gameſters, and that they alwayes went away with the loſſe.

He was a very godly perſon, and ſingular well featured, and all his youth well favoured, and of a ſweet aſpect, but high foreheaded, which as I ſhould take it, was of no diſcommendation: but towards his latter end (which with old men, was but a middle age) he grew high coloured and red faced; ſo that the Queen in this, had much of her Father, for (excepting ſome of her kindred, and ſome few that had handſome wits in crooked bodies,) ſhe alwayes took perſonage in the way of her election, for the people hath it to this day in proverb, King *Harry* loved a man: Being thus in her grace, ſhe

called to minde, the ſufferings of his Anceſtors, both in her Fathers and ſiſters raignes, and reſtored his and his brothers bloud, creating *Ambroſe* the elder, Earle of *Warwick*, and himſelf, Earl of *Leiceſter*, &c. And he was *ex primitiis*, or of her firſt choice, for he reſted not there but long enjoyed her favour; and therewith, much what he liſted, till time and emulation (the companions of great ones) had reſolved on his period, and to cover him at his ſetting in a cloud at *Cornebury*, not by ſo violent a death, and by the fatall ſentence of judicature, as that of his Fathers, and Grandfathers was, but as it is ſuggeſted by that poyſon which he had prepared for others, wherein they report him a rare Artiſt, I am not bound to give credit to all vulgar relations or to the libells of the times, which are commonly forced, and falſified ſuitable to the moods, and humours of men, in paſſion, and diſcontent, but that which leads me to think him no good man, is (amongſt others of known truth) that of my Lord of *Eſſex* death in *Ireland*, and the marriage of his Lady yet living, which I forbear to preſſe, in regard that he is long ſince dead, and others living, whom it may concern.

To take him in the obſervations of his Letters, and Writings (which ſhould beſt ſet him off) for ſuch as fell into my hands, I never yet ſaw a ſtyle or phraſe, more ſeeming religious, and fuller of the ſtreams of devotion, and were they not ſincere, I doubt much of his well being: and I may fear he was too well ſeen in the Aphoriſmes and principles of *Nicholas* the *Florentine*, and in the reaches of *Ceſar Borgia*; and hither to I have only touched him in his Courtſhip. I conclude him in his Lance, he was ſent Governour by the Queen to the united States of *Holland*, where we reade not of his wonders, for they ſay that he had more of *Mercury* then *Mars*, and that his device might have been, without prejudice to the great *Ceſar Veni vidi vedii*.

Suſſex.

His Corrivall before mentioned, was *Thomas Ratcliff* Earl of *Suſſex*, who, (in his conſtellation was his direct oppoſite) for he was indeed one of the Queens Martialiſts, and did very good ſervice in *Ireland*, at her firſt acceſſion, till ſhe recalled him to the Court, where ſhe made him Lord *Chamberlain*, but he played not his game with that cunning, and dexterity, as *Leiceſter* did, who was much the more facete Courtier, though *Suſſex* was thought much the honeſter man, and far the better ſouldier, but he lay too open on his guard.

He was a goodly Gentleman, and of a brave Noble nature, true and conſtant to his friends and ſervants, he was alſo of a very Noble

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and ancient Lineage, honoured through many deſcents by the Title of Viſcounts *Fitzwalters*: Moreover there was ſuch an Antipathy in his nature to that of *Leiceſters*, that being together in Court, and both in high imployments they grew to a direct frowardneſſe, and were in continuall oppoſition, the one ſetting the watch, the other the ſentinell, each on the others actions and motions, for my Lord of *Suſſex* was of a great ſpirit, which backt with the Queens ſpeciall favour, and ſupported by a great and ancient inheritance, could not brook the others Empire: Inſomuch as the Queen upon ſundry occaſions had ſomewhat to do to appeaſe, and attain them, untill death parted the competition, and let the place of *Leiceſter*, who was not long alone without his rivall in grace and command, and to conclude this Favorite, it is confidently affirmed, that lying in his laſt ſickneſſe, he gave this caveat to his friends, I am now paſſing into another world, and I muſt now leave you to your Fortunes, and to the Queens grace, and goodneſſe: but beware of the Gipſey, meaning *Leiceſter*, for he will be to hard for you all, you know not the beſt ſo well as I do.

Lord *Burleigh*.

I Now come to the next, which was Secretary *William Cecill*, for on the death of the old Marqueſſe of *Wincheſter*, he came up in his room, a perſon of a moſt ſubtill and active ſpirit, who though he ſtood not altogether by the way of conſtellation, and making up of a part and faction, for he was wholly intentive to the ſervice of his Miſtris, and his dexterity, experience, and merit, challenged a room in the Queens favour, which eclipſed the others over ſeeming greatneſſe, and made it appear, that there were others that ſteered, and ſtood at the Helm beſides himſelf, and more Starres in the Firmament of her grace then, *Vrſa Maior*, or the Bear with the ragged ſtaffe.

He was born (as they ſay in *Lincoln*-ſhire, but as ſome upon knowledge averre, of a younger Brother of the *Cecills* of *Hartford* ſhire, a family (of mine own knowledge) though now private, yet of no mean antiquity, who being expoſed, and ſent to the City, as poor Gentlemen uſe to do their younger Sons, he came to be a rich man on *London*-Bridge, and purchaſing in *Lincoln*-ſhire, where this man was born, he was ſent to *Cambridge*, then to the Innes of Court, and ſo he came to ſerve the Duke of *Somerſet* in the time of his Protecterſhip, as Secretary, and having a pregnancy to great inclinations, he came by degrees to a higher converſation with the chiefeſt affairs of State, and Councels; but on the fall of the Duke he ſtood ſome yeers in umbrage, and without imployment, till the State found

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and needed his abilities, and though we finde not that he was taken into any place, during *Maries* raign, unleſſe (as ſome have ſaid) towards the laſt, yet the Councell on ſeverall occaſions made uſe of him, and at the Queens entrance he was admitted Secretary of State, afterwards he was made Maſter of the Court of Wards, then Lord Treaſurer, a perſon of moſt requiſite abilities; and indeed the Queen began then to need, and to ſeek out for men of both Garbs, and ſo I conclude, and rank this great Inſtrument of State, amongſt the *Togati*, for he had not to do with the ſword, more then as the great pay-maſter, and contriver of Warre, which ſhortly followed, wherein he accompliſhed much thorough his theoricall knowledge at home, and his intelligence abroad, by unlocking the Councels of the Queens enemies.

We muſt now take (and that of truth) into obſervation, that untill the tenth of her raign, her times were calm and ſerene, though ſometimes a little overcaſt, as the moſt glorious Sunne riſings are ſubject to ſhaddowings and droppings in, for the clouds of *Spain*, and Vapors of the holy League, began then to diſperſe and threaten her ſerenity; Moreover, ſhe was then to provide againſt ſome inteſtine ſtorms, which began to gather in the very heart of her Kingdom, all which had a relation, and correſpondency, each with the other to dethrone her, and to diſturb the publike tranquillity, and therewithall (as a principall work) the eſtabliſhed Religion, for the name of Recuſant began then, and firſt to be known to the World, and till then the Catholiques were no more then Church Papiſts, but were commanded by the Popes expreſſe Letters, to appear, and forbear Church going, as they tender their holy Father, and the holy Catholike Church their Mother: ſo that it ſeems the Pope had then his ayms to take a true muſter of his children, but the Queen had the greater advantage; for ſhe likewiſe took tale of her apoſtate Subjects, their ſtrength, and how many they were that had given up their names unto *Baal*, who then by the hands of ſome of his Proſilites fixed his Bulls on the Gates of *Pauls*, which diſcharged her Subjects of all fidelity, and layed ſiege to the received faith, and ſo under the vail of the next Succeſſor, to replant the Catholike Religion, ſo that the Queen had then a new task and work in hand, that might well awak her beſt providence, and required a muſter of men and Arms, as well as Courtſhips, and Councels, for the times began to be quick and active, fitter for ſtronger motions, then thoſe the Carpet, and meaſure, and it will be a true note of her magnanimity, that ſhe loved a Souldier, and had a propenſion in her nature to regard, and alwayes to grace them; which the Courtiers taking into obſervation, took it as an invitation to winne honour, together with their Majeſties favour, by expoſing themſelves

themselves to the Wars; especially when the Queens, and the affairs of the Kingdom stood in some necessity of a Souldier; for we have many instances of the Sallies of the Nobility and Gentry, yea, and out of the Court, and her Privy favourites, (that had any touch or tincture of *Mars* in their inclinations, and to steal away without License, and the Queens Privity, which had like to have cost some of them dear, so predominant were their thoughts and hopes of honour growing in them, as we may truely observe in the expositions of Sir *Philip Sidney*, my Lord of *Essex*, *Mountioy*, and divers others, whose absence, and the manner of their eruptions, was very distastefull to her: whereof I can here adde a true, and no impertinent Story, and that of the last *Mountioy*, who having twice or thrice stoln away into *Britain* (where under Sir *Iohn Norris* he had then a Company) without the Queens leave and privity; she sent a Messenger unto him, with a strict charge to the Generall to see him sent home: when he came into the Queens presence, she fell into a kinde of reviling, demanding how he durst go over without her leave; Serve me so (quoth she) once more, and I will lay you fast enough for running; You will never leave it untill you are knockt on the head, as that inconsiderate fellow *Sidney* was; You shall go when I send you, in the mean time see that you lodge in the Court (which was then at *White Hall*) where you may follow your Book, read and discourse of the Wars.

But to our purpose it fell out happily to those, and (as I may say) to those times, That the Queen, during the calm of her Raign, was not idle, nor rockt asleep with security, for she had been very provident in the Reparation and Augmentation of her Shipping, and Ammunition: and I know not, whether by a foresight of policy, or an instinct it came about, or whether it was an act of her compassion; but it is most certain, That she sent Levies, and no small Troops to the assistance of the revolted States of *Holland*, before she had received any affront from the King of *Spain*, that might deserve, or tend to a breach in Hostility, which the Papists to this day maintain, was the provocation and cause of the after warres, but omitting what might be said to this point, those Netherland wars were the Queens Seminaries, and the Nurseries of very many brave Souldiers, and so were likewise the Civill warres of *France* (whither she sent five severall Armies) the Fence-schools that inured the youth and Gallantry of the Kingdom, and it was a *Militia* wherein they were daily in acquaintance, with the discipline of the *Spaniards*, who were then turned the Queens inveterate enemies.

And this have I taken into observation, her *Dies Halcionii*, those yeers of hers which were more serene and quiet then those that followed, which though they were not lesse propitious, as being touched more with the point of honour and victory, yet were they troubled,

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more with the point of honour and victory, yet were they troubled, and ever clouded over, both with domestique, and forraign machinations; and it is already quoted, they were such as awakened her spirits, and made her cast about how to defend, rather by offending, and by the way of diverting to prevent all Invasions, then to expect them, which was a piece of policy of the times: and with this I have noted the causes or occasions of the Warres following, and likewise pointed to the seed-plots from whence she took up those brave men, and plants of honour, which acted on the theatre of *Mars*, and on whom she dispersed the rayes of her grace, which were persons in their kindes of rare vertues, and such as might (out of height of merit) pretend interest to her favour, of which rank, the number will equall, if not exceed that of the Gown-men, in recount of whom I proceed with Sir *Philip Sydney*.

Sir *Philip Sidney*.

HE was sonne to Sir *Henry Sydney*, Lord Deputy of *Ireland*, and President of *Wales*, a person of great parts, and in no mean grace with the Queen: his mother was sister to my Lord of *Leicester*, from whence we may conjecture, how the Father stood up in the place of honour, and employment, so that his descent was apparantly noble on both sides: For his education, it was such as travell, and the University could afford, or his Tutors infuse; for after an incredible proficiency in all the species of Learning, he left the Academicall life for that of the Court, whither he came by his Vncles invitation, famed afore-hand by a noble report of his accomplishments, which together with the state of his person, framed by a naturall propension to Arms; he soon attracted the good opinion of all men, and was so highly prized in the good opinion of the Queen, that she thought the Court deficient without him: And whereas (through the fame of his deserts) he was in the election for the Kingdome of *Pole* she refused to further his advancement, not out of emulation, but out of fear to lose the jewell of her times: He married the daughter and sole heir of Sir *Francis Walsingham*, then Secretary of State, a Lady destinated to the Bed of honour, who (after his deplorable death at *Zutphen* in the Netherlands, where he was Governour of *Vtishing*, at the time of his Vncles being there) was married to my Lord of *Essex*, and since his death, to my Lord of Saint *Albons* all persons of the sword, and otherwise of great honour and vertue.

They have a very quaint and factious figment of him; That *Mars* and *Mercury* fell at variance whose servant he should be: And there is an *Epigrammist* that saith, That Art and Nature had spent their excellencies

cellencies in his fashioning, and fearing they should not end what they began, they bestowed him on Fortune, and Nature stood musing, and amazed to behold her own work. But these are the petulancies of Poets.

Certain it is, He was a noble and matchlesse Gentleman, and it may be justly said without hyperbolyes of fiction, as it was of *Cato Vticensis*, that he seemed to be born to that onely which he went about *Versatilis ingenii*, as *Plutarch* hath it, but to speak more of him, were to take him lesse.

Sir *Francis Walsingham*.

SIr *Francis Walsingham*, (as we have said) had the honour to be Sir *Philip Sidneys* Father in Law, he was a Gentleman (at first) of a good House, but of a better education, and from the University travelled for the rest of his Learning: He was doubtlesse the best Linguist of the times, but knew best how to use his own tongue, whereby he came to be employed in the chiefest affairs of State: He was sent Ambassadour into *France*, and stayed there a Lieger long, in the heat of the Civill Warres, and at the same time that Monsieur was here a Suitor to the Queen; and, if I be not mistaken, he played the very same part there, as since *Gundamore* did here: At his return, he was taken principall Secretary, and was one of the great Engines of State, and of the times, high in the Queens favour, and a watchfull servant over the safety of his Mistris.

They note him to have had certain curiosities, and secret wayes of intelligence above the rest, but I must confesse I am to seek wherefore he suffered *Parry* to play so long on the hook, before he hoysed him up; and I have been a little curious in the search thereof, though I have not to do with the *Arcana Imperii*.

For to know is sometimes a burthen; and I remember that it was *Ovids crimen aut error*, That he saw too much. But I hope these are Collateralls of no danger: but that *Parry* intending to kill the Queen, made the way of his accesse by betraying of others, and impeaching of the Priests of his own correspondency, and thereby had accesse and conference with the Queen, and also oftentimes familiar and private conference with *VValsingham*, will not be the Quære of the mystery; for the Secretary might have had end of discovery on a further maturity of the Treason, but that after the Queen knew *Parrys* intent, why she should then admit him to private discourse, and *VValsingham* to suffer it, considering the condition of all assaylings, and permit him to go where, and whether he listed, and only on the security of a dark sentinell set over him, was a piece of reach and hazard, beyond my apprehension.

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I must again professe, That having read many of his Letters (for they are commonly sent to my Lord of *Leicester*, and *Burleigh* out of *France*, containing many fine passages and secrets; yet if I might have been beholding to his Cyphers (whereof they are full) they would have told pretty tales of the times: but I must now close up, and rank him amongst the *Togati*, yet chief of those that laid the foundation of the *Dutch* and *French* VVarres, which was another piece of his fineneſſe, and of the times, with one obſervation more, That he was one of the great allayes of the Auſterian embracements; for both himſelf and *Stafford* that preceded him, might well have been compared to the fiend in the Goſpel, that ſowed his tares in the night, ſo did they their ſeeds of diviſion in the dark, and it is a likely report that they father on him, at his return, that the Queen ſaid unto him with ſome ſenſibility of the Spaniſh deſignes on *France*, Madam I beſeech you be content not to fear, the Spaniard hath a great appetite, and an excellent digeſtion, but I have fitted him with a bone for this twenty yeers, that your Majeſty ſhall have no cauſe to doubt him, provided that if the fire chance to ſlack which I have kindled, you will be ruled by me, and now and then caſt in ſome Engliſh fewell, which will revive the flame.

Willoughby.

MY Lord *Willoughby* was one of the Queens firſt ſword-men; he was of the antient extract of the *Bertues*, but more ennobled by his mother, who was Dutcheſſe of *Suffolk*.

He was a great Maſter of the Art Military, and was ſent Generall into *France*, and commanded the ſecond of five Armies, that the Queen ſent thither in ayd of the *French*: I have heard it ſpoken that had he not ſlighted the Court, but applyed himſelf to the Queen he might have enjoyed a plentifull portion of her grace, and it was his ſaying (and it did him no good) That he was none of the *Reptilia*, intimating that he could not creep on the ground, and that the Court was not in his Element, for indeed as he was a great Souldier, ſo was he of a ſutable magnanimity, and could not brook the obſequiouſneſſe, and aſſiduity of the Court, and as he then was ſomewhat deſcending from youth happily he had an *animum revertendi*, and to make a ſafe retreat.

Sir

Sir Nicholas Bacon.

I Come to another of the *Togati*, Sir *Nicholas Bacon*, an arch piece of Wit and Wisdome; he was a Gentleman, and a man of Law, and of great knowledge therein, whereby, together with his other parts of learning and dexterity, he was promoted to be Keeper of the great Seal: and being of kin to the Treasurer *Burleigh*, had also the help of his hand to bring him into the Queens favour, for he was abundantly factious, which took much with the Queen, when it was suited with the season, as he was well able to judge of his times: he had a very quaint saying, and he used it often to good purpose, That he loved the jest well, but not the losse of his friend: he would say, that though he knew *Vnusquisque sue fortune faber* was a true and good Principle, yet the most in number were those that marred themselves, but I will never forgive that man that loseth himself to be rid of his jest.

He was father to that refined wit, which since hath acted a disasterous part on the publique stage, and of late sate in his fathers room, as Lord Chancellor: those that lived in his age, and from whence I have taken this little Model of him, gives him a lively Character; and they decipher him for another *Solon*, and the *Syron* of those times, such a one as *Aedipus* was in dissolving of Riddles; doubtlesse he was as able an instrument; and it was his commendation, that his head was the Mawl (for it was a great one) and therein he kept the Wedge that entred the knotty pieces that came to the Table. And now I must again fall back to smooth and plain a way to the rest that is behinde, but not from the purpose.

There were about these times two Rivalls in the Queens favour, old Sir *Francis Knowls*, Controuler of the House, and Sir *Henry Norris*, whom she called up at a Parliament, to sit with the Peers in the higher House, as Lord *Norris* of *Rycott*, who had married the daughter and Heir of the old Lord *Williams* of *Tain*, a Noble person, and to whom in the Queens adversity, she had been committed to safe custody, and from him had received more then ordinary observances. Now such was the goodnesse of the Queens nature, that she neither forgot the good turns received from the Lord *Williams*, neither was she unmindefull of this Lord *Norris*, whose father, in her Fathers time, and in the businesse of her mother, died in a Noble cause, and in the justification of her innocency.

Lord

Lord Norris.

MY Lord *Norris* had by this Lady an ample Issue, which the Queen highly respected; for he had six sons, and all Martiall brave men; the first was *William* his eldest, and father to the late Earl of *Berk*-shire; Sir *John*, Vulgarly called Generall *Norris*; Sir *Edward*, Sir *Thomas*, Sir *Henry*, and *Maximilian*, men of an haughty courage, and of great experience in the conduct of Military affairs; and to speak in the Character of their merit, they were such persons of such renown and worth, as future times must out of duty owe them the debt of an honourable memory.

Knowls.

SIr *Francis Knowls* was somewhat of the Queens affinity, and had likewise no incompetent Issue, for he had also *William* his eldest, and since Earl of *Banbury*, Sir *Thomas*, Sir *Robert*, and Sir *Francis*, if I be not a little mistaken in their names and Marshalling: and there was also the Lady *Lettice*, a Sister of these, who was first Countesse of *Essex*, and after of *Leicester*, and these were also brave men in their times and places; but they were of the Court and Carpet, not led by the genius of the Camp.

Between these two Families, there was (as it falleth out amongst great Ones, and Competitors for favour) no great correspondency: and there were some seeds, either of emulation or distrust cast between them, which, had they not been disjoyned in the residence of their persons (as it was the fortune of their employments the one side attending the Court, the other the Pavillion,

Surely they would have broken out into some kinde of Hostility, or at least they would have wrestled one with the other, like Trees, incircled with joy, for there was a time when (in these Fraternities being met at Court) there passed a challenge between them at certain exercises (the Queen and the old men being Spectators) which ended in a flat quarrell amongst them all) and I am perswaded (though I ought not to judge) that there were some reliques of this feud, that were long after, the causes of the one Families (almost utter) extirpation, and of the others improsperity: for it was a knowd truth, that so long as my Lord of *Leicester* lived, who was the main Pillar of the one side, as having married the Sister, none of the other side took any deep rooting in the Court: though otherwise they made their wayes to honour by their swords: and that which is of more note (considering my Lord of *Leicesters* use of men of Arms, being shortly after sent Governour to the revolted States, and

and no Souldier himself) is, that he made no more accompt of Sir *John Norris*, a Souldier then deservedly famoused, and trained from a Page, under the discipline of the great Captain of Christendome, the Admirall Casillion, and of command in the French, and Dutch Warres almost twenty yeers. It is of further observation, that my Lord of *Essex*, (after *Leicesters* decease) though initiated to Arms, and honoured by the Generall, in the *Portugall* expedition; whether out of instigation (as it hath been thought) or out of ambition and jealousie, to be eclipsed, and overshaddowed by the fame and splendor of this great Commander, loved him not in sincerity. Moreover, certain it is, he not only crusht, and (upon all occasions) queld the growth of this brave man, and his famous Brethren, but therewith drew on his own fatall end, by undertaking the Irish Action; in a time when he left the Court, empty of friends, and full fraught with his profest enemies: but I forbear to extend my self in any further relation upon this Subject, as having left some notes of truth, in these two noble Families, which I would present, and therewith toucht somewhat, which I would not, if the equity of the Narration would have admitted an intermission.

Sir *John Perrot*.

SIr *John Perrot* was a goodly Gentleman, and of the sword, and as he was of a very ancient descent, as an heir to many abstracts of gentry, especially from *Guy de Bryan* of *Lawhaden*, so was he of a vast estate, and came not to the Court for want, and to these adjuncts, he had the endowments of courage, and height of spirit, had it lighted on the allay of temper, and discretion, the defect whereof, with a native freedome, and boldnesse of speech, drew him on to a clouded setting, and laid him open to the spleen and advantage of his enemies, amongst whom Sir *Christo. her Hatton* was profest. He was yet a wise man, and a brave Courtier, but rough, and participating more of active then sedentary motions, as being in his constellation destinated for Arms. There is a quere of some denotations, how he came to receive his foyl, and that in the Catastrophe, for he was strengthned with honourable allyances and the privy friendships of the Court.

My Lord of *Leicester* and *Burleigh*, (both his contemporaries and familiars. But that there might be (as the Adage hath it) falsity in friendship, and we may rest satisfied, that there is no dispute against fate.

They quote him, for a person that loved too stand to much alone, and on his own legs, of too often recesses, and discontinuance from the Queens presence, a fault which is incompatible with the ways of Court and favour.

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He was ſent Lord Deputy into *Ireland*, (as it was thought) for a kinde of haughtineſſe of ſpirit, and repugnancy in Councells: or as others have thought, the fitteſt perſon then, to bridle the inſolency of the *Iriſh*; and probable it is, That both theſe (conſidering the ſway that he would have at the Board, and head in the Queens) concurred and did a little conſpire his remove, and his ruine. But into *Ireland* he went, where he did the Queen very great and many ſervices, if the ſurpluſage of the meaſure did not abate the value of the merit, as after times found that to be no Paradox; for to ſave the Queens purſe (which both her ſelf and my Lord Treaſurer *Burleigh* ever took for good ſervices) he impoſed on the *Iriſh* the charge of bearing their own arms, which both gave them the poſſeſſion, and taught them the uſe of weapons, which proved in the end a moſt fatall work, both in the profuſion of blood and treaſure.

But at his return, and on ſome account ſent home before, touching the ſtate of the Kingdome, the aſſiduous teſtimonies of her grace towards him, till by his retreat to his Caſtle at *Cary*, where he was then building, and out of deſire to be in command at home (as he had been abroad) together with the hatred and practice of *Hatton*, then in high favour, whom not long before he had too bitterly taunted for his dancing, he was accuſed of high Treaſon, and for high words, and a forged Letter condemned, though the Queen, on the news of his condemnation, ſwore by her wonted oath, That they were all knaves: and they deliver with aſſurance, that on his return to the Tower, after his Tryall, he ſaid in oathes, and in fury, to the Lievtenant Sir *Owen Hopton*, What, will the Queen ſuffer her Brother to be offered up as a Sacrifice to the envy of my friſking adverſaries? Which being made known to the Queen, and the Warrant for his execution tendered, and ſomewhat enforced, ſhe refuſed to ſigne it, and ſwore he ſhould not die, for he was an honeſt and a faithfull man. And ſurely, though not altogether to ſet up our reſt and faith upon tradition, and upon old reports, as that Sir *Thomas Perrot* his Father was a Gentleman of the Privy Chamber, to *Henry* the eighth, and in the Court married a Lady of great Honour, of the Kings familiarity, which are preſumptions of ſome implication: But if we go a little further, and compare his Picture, his qualities, geſture, and voyce, with that of the Kings, which memory retains yet amongſt us, they will plead ſtrongly that he was a ſubreptious childe of the blood Royall.

Certain it is, that he lived not long in the Tower, and that after his deceaſe Sir *Thomas Perot* his ſonne (then of no mean eſteem with the Queen) having before married my Lord of *Eſſex* Siſter, ſince Counteſſe of *Northumberland*, had reſtitution of all his Lands, though after his deceaſe alſo (which immediately followed) the Crown reſumed

reſumed his eſtate, and took advantage of the former attainder: And to ſay the truth, The Prieſts forged letter was at his araignment, thought but as a fiction of envy, and was ſoon after exploded by the Prieſts own confeſſion; But that which moſt exaſperated the Queen, and gave advantage to his enemies, was (as Sir *Walter Rawleigh* takes into his obſervation) words of diſdain, for the Queen by ſharp and reprehenſive Letters, had nettled him; and ſhortly after ſending others of approbation, commending his ſervice, and intimating an invaſion from *Spain*, which he no ſooner peruſed, but he ſaid publiquely in the great Chamber at *Dublin*: Lo now ſhe is ready to piſſe her ſelf for fear of the *Spaniard*; I am again one of her white Boys.

Words which are ſubject to a various conſtruction, and tended to ſome diſreputation of his Soveraign, and ſuch as may ſerve for inſtruction to perſons in place of honour, and command to beware of the violences of nature; but eſpecially of the exorbitances of the tongue. And ſo I conclude him with this double obſervation, The one of the innocency of his intentions, (exempt and clear from the guilt of Treaſon) and diſloyalty; The other of the greatneſſe of his heart; For at his araignment, he was ſo little dejected, by what might be alleaged and proved againſt him, that he rather grew troubled vvith choller, and in a kinde of exaſpiration deſpiſed his Iury, though of the order of Knighthood, and of the ſpeciall Gentry, claiming the priviledge of tryall, by the Peers, and Baronage of the Realm, ſo prevalent vvas that of his native genius, and the haughtineſſe of his ſpirit, vvhich accompanied him to his laſt, and till (any diminution of courage) it brake in peeces, the cords of his magnanimity, for he dyed ſuddenly in the Tovver, and vvhen it vvas thought the Queen did intend his inlargement, vvith the reſtitution of his poſſeſſions, vvhich vvere then very great, and comparable to moſt of the Nobility.

Hatton.

SIR *Chriſtopher Hatton* came into the Court, as his oppoſite, Sir *Iohn Perrot* vvas vvont to ſay, by the Galliard, for he came thither as a private Gentleman of the Innes of Court in a Mask, and for his activity, and perſon, which was tall, and proportionable, taken into her favour; he was firſt made Vice-Chamberlain, and ſhortly afterward advanced to the place of Lord Chancellor; a Gentleman, that beſides the graces of his perſon, and dancing, had alſo the adjectaments of a ſtrong and ſubtill capacity, one that could ſoon learn the diſcipline and garb, both of the times and Court; the truth is, he had a large proportion of gifts, and endowments, but too

much of the season of envy, and he was a meer vegetable of the Court, that sprung up at night, and sunk again at his noon.

Lord *Effingham*.

MY Lord of *Effingham* though a Courtier betimes, yet I finde not, that the Sunshine of her favour, broke out upon him, untill she took him into the Ship, and made him high Admirall of *England*, for his extract it may suffice, that he was the sonne of a *Howard*, and of a Duke of *Norfolk*.

And for his person, as goodly a Gentleman, as the times had any, if nature had not been more intentive to compleat his person, then Fortune to make him rich, for the times considered which were then active, and a long time after lucrative, he dyed not wealthy, yet the honester man, though it seems the Queens purpose was to tender the occasion of his advancement, and to make him capable of more honour, which at his return from *Cadiz* accounts, she conferred it upon him, creating him Earl of *Nottingham*, to the great discontent of his Colleague, my Lord of *Essex*, who then grew excessive in the Appetite of her favour, and in truth was so exorbitant in the limitation of the Soveraign aspect, that it much alienated the Queens grace from him, and drew others together with the Admirall, to a combination, and to conspire his ruine: and though I have heard it from that party (I mean of the Admiralls faction) that it lay not in his proper power to hurt my Lord of *Essex*, yet he had more followers, and such as were well skilled in setting of the Gynne, but I leave this, to those of another age.

It is out of doubt, that the Admirall was a good honest, and a brave man, and a faithfull servant to his Mistris, and such a one as the Queen out of her own Princely judgement, knew to be a fit instrument for that service, for she was no ill proficient in the reading of men, as well as Books, and his sundry expeditions, as that aforementioned, and 88. doth both expresse his worth, and manifest the Queens trust, and the opinion she had of his fidelity, and conduct.

Moreover, the *Howard* were of the Queens alliance, and consanguinity by her Mother, which swayed her affection; and bent it toward this great house, and it was a part of her naturall propension, to grace, and support ancient nobility, where it did not intrench, neither invade her interest, for on such trespasses she was quick and tender, and would not spare any whatsoever, as we may observe in the case of the Duke, and my Lord of *Hereford*, whom she much favoured, and countenanced, till they attempted the forbidden fruit, the fault of the last, being in the severest interpretation, but a tref-

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passe of incroachment, but in the first, it was taken for a ryot against the Crown, and her own Soveraign power, and as I have ever thought, the cause of her aversion against the rest of the house, and the Dukes great Father in Law *Fitz Allen*, Earl of *Arundell*, a person of the first rank in her affections before these, and some other jealousies made a separation between them; this noble Lord, and the Lord *Thomas Howard*, since Earl of *Suffolk*, standing alone in her grace, the rest in umbrage.

Sir *John Packington*.

SIR *John Packington* was a Gentleman of no mean family, and of form and feature, no way despisable, for he was a brave Gentleman, and a very fine Courtier, and for the time which he stayed there, (which was not lasting) very high in her grace, but he came in, and went out, and thorough disassiduity drew the Curtain between himself and the light of her grace, and then death overwhelmed the remnant, and utterly deprived him of recovery, and they say of him, that had he brought lesse to the Court then he did, he might have carried away more then he brought, for he had a time on it, but an ill husband of opportunity.

Lord *Hunsdon*.

MY Lord of *Hunsdon* was of the Queens neerest kindred, and on the decease of *Sussex*, both he, and his sonne took the place of Lord Chamberlain, he was a fast man to his Prince, and firm in his friends and servants, and though he might speak big, and therein would be born out, yet was he not the more dreadfull, but lesse harmfull, and farre from the practise of my Lord of *Leicesters* instructions, for he was down right, and I have heard those that both knew him well, and had interest in him, say merrily of him, that his Latine, and his dissimulation were both alike, and that his custome of swearing, and obscenity in speaking, made him seem a worse Christian then he was, and a better Knight of the Carpet, then he should be, as he lived in a rustling time, so he loved sword and buckler men, and such as our Fathers were wont to call men of their hands; of which sort, he had many brave Gentlemen that followed him; yet not taken for a popular and dangerous person, and this is one that stood amongst the *Tagati*, of an honest stout heart, and such a one (as upon occasion) would have fought for his Prince, and his Country; for he had the charge of the Queens person, both in the Court, and in the Camp at *Tilbury*.

Rawleigh.

SIR *Walter Rawleigh* was one that (it seems) fortune had pickt out of purpose, of whom to make an example, or to use as her Tennis-Ball, thereby to shew what she could do, for she tost him up of nothing, and to and fro to greatnesse, and from thence down to little more, then to that wherein she found him (a bare Gentleman) not that he was lesse, for he was well descended, and of good alliance, but poor in his beginnings; and for my Lord of *Oxfords* jest of him, (the Iack, and an upstart) we all know, it savours more of emulation, and his humour, then of truth, and it is a certain note of the times, that the Queen in her choice, never took into her favour a meer new man, or a Mechanick, as *Comines* observes of *Lewis* the eleventh of *France*, who did serve himself with persons of unknown Parents; such as was *Oliver* the Barber, whom he created Earl of *Dunoys*, and made him *ex secretis consiliis*, and alone in his favour, familiarity; his approaches to the University, and Innes of Court were the grounds of his improvement, but they were rather excursions, then sieges, or settings down, for he stayed not long in a place, and being the youngest brother, and the house diminished in Patrimony, he foresaw his own destiny, that he was first to roule (through want and disability, to subsist otherwayes) before he could come to a repose, and as the stone doth by long lying, gather mosse: He first exposed himself to the Land service of *Ireland*, (a *Militia*) which then did not yeild him food and rayment, (for it was ever very poor) nor had he patience to stay there, (though shortly after he came thither again) under the command of my Lord *Grey*, but with his own Colours flying in the field, having in the interim cast a new chance, both in the Low-Countries, and in a voyage to Sea; and if ever man drew vertue out of necessity, it was he; therewith was he the great example of industry, and though he might then have taken that of the Merchant to himself, *Per mare, per terras, currit mercator ad Indos*, He might also have said, and truly with the Phylosopher, *Omnia mea mecum porto*: For it was a long time before he could brag of more then he carried at his back, and when he got on the winning side, it was his commendation, that he took pains for it, and underwent many various adventures for his after perfection, and before he came into the publike note of the world: And it may appear how he came up (*per arduas*) *Per varios casus per tot discrimina rerum*, not pulled up by chance, or by any gentle admittance of Fortune. I will briefly describe his native parts, and those of his own acquiring, which were the hopes of his rising.

He had in the outward man, a good presence, in a handsome and well

well compacted perſon, a ſtrong naturall wit, and a better judgement, with a bold, and plauſible tongue, whereby he could ſet out his parts to the beſt advantage, and to theſe he had the adjuncts of ſome generall learning, which by diligence he enforced to a great augmentation, and perfection; for he was an indefatigable Reader, whether by Sea or Land, and none of the leaſt obſervers both of men, and the times; and I am confident, that among the ſecond cauſes of his growth, that variance between him, and my Lord *Grey*, in his deſcent into *Ireland* was a principall, for it drew them both over to the Councell Table, there to plead their cauſe, where (what advantage he had in the cauſe, I know not) but he had much the better, in the telling of his tale; and ſo much, that the Queen and the Lords, took no ſlight mark of the man, and his parts; for from thence he came to be known, and to have acceſſe to the Queen, and the Lords; and then we are not to doubt how ſuch a man would comply, and learn the way of progreſſion; and whether or no my L. of *Leiceſter* had then caſt in a good word for him to the Queen, wch would have done no harm, I do not determine: But true it is, He had gotten the Queens ear at a trice, and ſhe began to be taken with his elocution, and loved to hear his reaſons, to her demands; And the truth is, ſhe took him for a kinde of Oracle, which nettled them all; yea, thoſe that he relyed on, began to take this his ſuddain favour for an Allarum, and to be ſenſible of their own ſupplantation, and to project his, which made him ſhortly after ſing, *Fortune my foe, &c.* So that finding his favour declining, and falling into a receſſe, he undertook a new perigrination to leave that *Terra inſima* of the Court, for that of the Warres, and by declining himſelf, and by abſence to expell his, and the paſſion of his enemies, which in Court, was a ſtrange device of recovery, but that he knew, there was ſome ill office done him, that he durſt not attempt to minde any other wayes, then by going aſide, thereby to teach envy a new way of forgetfulneſſe, and not ſo much as to think of him; howſoever, he had it alwayes in minde never to forget himſelf, and his device took ſo well, that at his return he came in (as Rammes do, by going backward) with the greater ſtrength, and ſo continued to her laſt, great in her grace, and Captain of the Guard; where I muſt leave him, but with this obſervation, That though he gained much at the Court, yet he took it not out of the Exchequer, or meerly out of the Queens purſe, but by his wit, and the help of the Prerogative, for the Queen was never profuſe in the delivering out of her treaſure, but payed many, and moſt of her ſervants part in money, and the reſt with grace, which as the caſe ſtood, was taken for good payment, leaving the Arrear of recompence due to their merit, to her great Succeſſor, who payed them all with advantage.

Grevill.

SIR *Fan'k Grevill*, since Lord *Brook*, had no mean place in her favour, neither did he hold it for any short tearm, for if I be not deceived, he had the longest lease, and the smoothest time without rub of any of her Favorites; he came to the Court in his youth and prime, for that is the time or never, he was a brave Gentleman, and honourably descended from *Willoughby*, Lord *Brook*, and Admirall to *Henry* the 7. neither illiterate, for he was, as he would often professe a friend to Sir *Philip Sydney*, and there are of his now extant some fragments of his Poem, and of those times, which do interest him in the Muses; and which shews the Queens election had ever a noble conduct, and it motions more of vertue and judgement, then of fansie. I finde, that he neither sought for, or obtained any great place or preferment in Court, during all the time of his attendance; neither did he need it, for he came thither, backt with a plentifull Fortune, which as himself was wont to say, was the better held togeby a single life, wherein he lived and dyed a constant Courtier of the Ladies.

Essex.

MY Lord of *Essex* (as Sir *Henry Wotton* a Gentleman of great parts, and partly of his times, and retinue observes) had his introduction by my Lord of *Leicester*, who had married his mother, a tye of Affinity: which besides a more urgent obligation might have invited his eare to advance him, his fortune being then (and through his Fathers infelicity) grown low; But that the sonne of a Lord, *Ferrers* of *Chartley*, Viscount *Hartford*, and Earl of *Essex* (who was of the ancient Nobility) and formerly in the Queens good Grace, could not have a room in her favour, without the assistance of *Leicester* was beyond the rule of her nature, which as I have elsewhere taken into observation, was ever inclinable to favour the Nobility: Sure it is, That he no sooner appeared in Court, but he took with the Queen and Courtiers; and I beleeve they all could not choose, but look thorough the Sacrifice of the Father, on his living sonne, whose Image by the remembrance of former passages, was afresh, (like the bleeding of men murdered) represented to the Court, and offered up as a Subject of compassion to all the Kingdom. There was in this young Lord together with a most goodly person, a kinde of urbanity, or innate curtesie, which both wonne the Queen, and too much took upon the people, to gaze upon the new adopted sonne of her favour: and as I go along, it were not amisse to take into observation

obſervation two notable quotations: the firſt was a violent indulgency of the Queen, (which incident to old age, where it encounters with a pleaſing and ſuitable object) towards this Lord, all which argued a non-perpetuity, the ſecond was a fault in the object of her grace; my Lord himſelf, who drew in too faſt, like a childe ſucking on an over uberous Nurſe, and had there been a more decent decorum obſerved in both, or either of thoſe, without doubt, the unity of their affections, had been more permanent, and not ſo in and out as they were, like an inſtrument ill tuned, and lapſing to diſcord.

The greater errour of the two (though unwillingly) I am conſtrained to impoſe on my Lord of *Eſſex*, or rather on his youth, and none of the leaſt of his blame, on thoſe that ſtood Sentinels about him, who might have adviſed him better, but that like men intoxicated with hopes, they likewiſe had ſuckt in with the moſt, and of their Lords receipt, and ſo like *Cæſars* would have all or none, a rule quite contrary to nature, and the moſt indulgent parents, who though they may expreſſe more affection to one in the abundance of boqueſts: yet cannot forget ſome Legacies, juſt diſtributives, and dividents to others, of their begetting; and how hatefull partiallity proves, every dayes experience tells us, out of which common conſideration might have framed to their hands a maxime of more diſcretion for the conduct and management of their now graced Lord and Maſter.

But to omit that of inſuſion, and to do right to truth, my Lord of *Eſſex* (even of thoſe that truly loved and honoured him, was noted for too bold an ingroſſer, both of fame and favour, and of this (without offence to the living, or treading on the ſacred urne of the dead) I ſhall preſent a truth, and a paſſage yet in memory.

My Lord *Mountjoy*, (who was another childe of her favour) being newly come to Court, and then but Sir *Charles Blunt* (for my Lord *William* his Elder Brother, was then living) had the good fortune one day to runne very well a Tilt, and the Queen therewith was ſo well pleaſed, that ſhe ſent him in token of her favour, a Queen at *Cheſſe* of gold richly ennameled, which his ſervants had the next day faſtned on his Arme, with a Crymſon ribband, which my Lord of *Eſſex* as he paſſed through the Privy Chamber eſpying, with his cloak caſt under his Arme, the better to commend it to the view, enquired what it was, and for what cauſe there fixed, Sir *Foulk Grevill* told him, that it was the Queens favour, which the day before, and after the Tilting ſhe had ſent him, whereat my Lord of *Eſſex* in a kinde of emulation, and as though he would have limited her favour, ſaid now I perceive, every fool muſt have a favour, This bitter and publikely affront, came to Sir *Charles Blunts* eare, who ſent him a challenge, which was accepted by my Lord, and they met neer *Mary-*

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bone Park, where my Lord was hurt in the thigh, and disarmed; the Queen missing the men, was very curious to learn the truth, and when at last, it was whispered out, she swore by Gods death, it was fit that some one or other should take him down, and teach him better manners, otherwise there would be no rule with him: and here I note the inition of my Lords friendship, with *Mountjoy*, which the Queen her self did then conjure.

Now for fame, we need not go farre, for my Lord of *Essex* having borne a grudge to Generall *Norris*, who had (unwittingly) offered to undertake the action of *Britain* with fewer men, then my Lord had before demanded, on his return with victory, and a glorious report of his valour, he was then thought the onely man for the *Irish* Warre, wherein my Lord of *Essex* so wrought, by despising the number, and quality of Rebels, that *Norris* was sent over with a scanted force, joyned with the reliques of the veterane Troops of *Britain*, of set purpose (as it fell out) to ruine *Norris*, and the Lord *Burrows*. by my Lords procurement sent at his heels, and to command in chief, and to confine *Norris* onely to his Government at *Munster*, which brake the great heart of the Generall, to see himself undervalued, and undermined by my Lord and *Burrows*, which was as the Proverb speaks it, *Imberbes docere senes*.

My Lord *Burrows*, in the beginning of his persecution dyed, whereupon the Queen was fully bent to have sent over *Mountioy*, which my Lord of *Essex* utterly disliked, and opposed with many reasons, and by arguments of contempt against *Mountioy*, his then professed friend and familiar, so predominant were his words, to reap the honour of closing up that Warre, and all other.

Now the way being opened and plained by his own Workmanship, and so handled that none durst appear to stand for the place, at last, with much ado, he obtained his own ends, and withall his fatall destruction, leaving the Queen and the Court (where he stood firm, and impregnable in her grace) to men that long had sought, and watcht their times to give him the trip, and could never finde any opportunity, but this of his absence, and of his own creation, and these are the true observations of his Appetite, and inclinations, which were not of any true proportion, but carried and transported with an over desire, and thirstines after fame, and that deceitfull fame of popularity: and to help on his Catastrophe, I observe likewise two sorts of people, that had a hand in his fall, the first was the Souldiery, which all flockt unto him, as foretelling a mortality, and are commonly of blunt, and too rough Counsells, and many times dissonant from the time of the Court, and the State; the other sort were of his family, his servants, and his own creatures, such as were bound by the rules of safety, and obligations of fidelity to

have

have looked better to the steering of that Boat, wherein they themselves were carried, and not have suffered it to float and runne on ground, with those empty Sailes of Fame and Tumor of popular applause, me thinks one honest man or other, that had but the office of brushing his cloaths, might have whispered in his ear, my Lord look to it, this multitude that followes you, will either devoure you, or undo you; strive not to rule, and over rule all, for it will cost hot water, and it will procure envy, and if needs your genius must have it so, let the Court, and the Queens presence, be your station: but as I have said, they had suckt too much of their Lords milk, and instead of withdrawing, they blew the Coals of his ambition, and infused into him too much of the Spirit of glory: yea, and mixed the goodnesse of his nature with a touch of revenge, which is ever accompanied with a destiny of the same fate, and of this number there were some of insufferable natures about him, that towards his last, gave desperate advice, such as his integrity abhorred, and his fidelity forbad, amongst whom Sir *Henry Witton* notes (without injury) his Secretary *Cuffe*, a vile man, and of a perverse nature, I could also name others, that when he was in the right course of recovery, and settling to moderation, would not suffer a recesse in him, but stirred up the dregs of those rude humors, which by time, and his affliction, out of his own judgement he sought to repose, or to give them all a vomit: and thus I conclude this noble Lord, as a mixture between prosperity, and adversity, once the childe of his great Mistris favour, but the sonne of *Bellona*.

Buckhurst.

MY Lord of *Buckhurst*, was of the noble House of the *Sackvills*, and of the Queens consanguinity, his Father was Sir *Richard Sackvill*, or as the people then called him, Fill-sack, by reason of his great wealth, and the vast Patrimony which he left to this his sonne, whereof he spent in his youth the best part, untill the Queen by her frequent admonitions diverted the torrent of his profusion, he was a very fine Gentleman of person, and indowments both of art and nature, both without measure magnificent, till on the turn of his humour, and the allay that his yeers, and good Councells had wrought upon those immoderate courses of his youth, and that height of spirit, inherent to his House: and then did the Queen as a most juditious, and indulgent Prince, when she saw the man, grow stayed, and settled, give him her assistance, and advanced him to the Treasurership, where he made amends to his house, for his mispent time, both in the increasment of estate and honour, which the Queen conferred on him, together with the opportunity to remake himself,

and thereby to ſhew that this was a childe, that ſhould have a ſhare in her grace, and a taſte of her bounty. They much commend his elocution, but more the excellency of his pen, for he was a Scholler, and a perſon of a quick diſpatch (faculties, that yet runne in the bloud) and they ſay of him, that his Secretaries did little for him, by the way of inditement, wherein they could ſeldome pleaſe him, he was ſo facete and choice in his phraſe, and ſtyle: and for his diſpatches, and the content he gave to Suitors, he had a decorum ſeldome ſince put in practiſe; for he had of his attendants that took into rowl, the names of all Suitors, with the date of their firſt addreſſes, and theſe in their order had hearing, ſo that a freſh man, could not leap over his head, that was of a more ancient edition, except in the urgent affaires of State. I finde not that he was any wayes inſnared in the factions of the Court, which were all his times ſtrong, and in every mans note the *Howards* and the *Cecills* of the one part, my Lord of *Eſſex*, &c. on the other part, for he held the Staff of the Treaſury faſt in his hand, which once in the yeer made them all beholding to him, and the truth is (as he was a wiſe man, and a ſtout) he had no reaſon to be a partaker: for he ſtood ſure in bloud, and in grace, and was wholly intentive to the Queens ſervice, and ſuch were his abilities, that ſhe received aſſiduous proofes of his ſufficiency, and it hath been thought, that ſhe might have more cunning inſtruments, but none of a more ſtrong judgement and confidence in his wayes, which are ſymptomes of magnanimity and fidelity, whereunto methinks this Motto hath ſome kinde of reference, *aut nunquam tentes aut perfice*. As though he would have charactered in a word the Genius of his Houſe, or expreſt ſomewhat of an higher inclination, then lay within his compaſſe. That he was a Courtier, is apparent, for he ſtood alwayes in her eye and favour.

Lord *Mountjoy*.

MY Lord *Mountjoy* was of the ancient Nobility, but utterly deceived in the ſupport thereof, Patrimony, through his Grandfathers exceſſe in the action of *Bullen*, his Fathers vanity in the ſearch of the Philoſophers-ſtone, and his Brothers untimely prodigalities, all which ſeemed by a joynt conſpiracy to ruine the houſe, and altogether to annihilate it: as he came from *Oxford*, he took the Inner-Temple in his way to Court, whither no ſooner came, but (without asking) he had a pretty ſtrange kinde of admiſſion, which I have heard from a diſcreet man, of his own, and much more of the ſecrets of thoſe times: he was then much about twenty yeers of age, of a Brown-hair, a ſweet face, a moſt neat Compoſure, and tall in his perſon, the Queen was then at *White-hall*, and at dinner, whither he

came

came to ſee the faſhion of the Court, the Queen had ſoon found him out, and with a kinde of an affected frown, asked the Lady Carver what he was, ſhe anſwered ſhe knew him not, inſomuch as an inquiry was made from one to another, who he might be, till at length, it was told the Queen, he was Brother to the Lord *William Mountioy*, this inquiſition with the eye of Majeſty fixed upon him, (as ſhe was wont to do, and to dant men ſhe knew not) ſtirred the bloud of this young Gentleman, inſomuch as his colour came and went, which the Queen obſerving, called him unto her, and gave him her hand to kiſſe, incouraging him with gratious words, and new looks, and ſo diverting her ſpeech to the Lords, and Ladies, She ſaid, that ſhe no ſooner obſerved him, but that ſhe knew there was in him ſome noble Bloud, with ſome other expreſſions of pitty towards his Houſe, and then again demanding his name, She ſaid, fail you not to come to the Court, and I will be think my ſelf how to do you good; and this was his inlet, and the beginnings of his grace, where it fals into conſideration, that though he wanted not wit and courage, for he had very fine attractions, and being a good peece of a Scholler, yet were they accompanied with the retractives of baſhfulneſs, and a naturall modeſty which (as the toan of his houſe, & the ebbe of his fortune then ſtood) might have hindred his progreſſion, had they not been reinforced, by the infuſion of Soveraign favour, and the Queens gratious invitation. And that it may appear how low he was, and how much that heretique neceſſity, will work in the dejection of good ſpirits, I can deliver it with aſſurance, that his exhibition was very ſcant untill his Brother dyed, which was ſhortly after his admiſſion to the Court, and then was it no more then a thouſand Marks *per annum*, wherewith he lived plentifully in a fine way and garb, and without any great ſuſtentation, during all her times, and as there was in his nature a kinde of backwardneſſe, which did not befriend him, nor ſuite with the motion of the Court, ſo there was in him an inclination to Armes, with a humour of travelling, and gadding abroad, which had not ſome wiſe men about him laboured to remove, and the Queen her ſelf laid in her commands, he would (out of his naturall propenſion) have marred his own market, for as he was grown by reading (wherunto he was much addicted) to the theory of a Souldier, ſo was he ſtrongly invited by his genius, to the acquaintance of the practique of the Warre, which were the cauſes of his excurſions, for he had a Company in the Low-Countries, from whence he came over with a Noble acceptance of the Queen, but ſomewhat reſtleſſe, in honourable thoughts he expoſed himſelf again, and again, and would preſſe the Queen with the pretences of viſiting his Company ſo often, that at length he had a flat deniall, and yet he ſtole over with Sir *John Norris*, into the action of *Britain*, (which

was then a hot and active Warre) whom he would alwayes call his Father, honouring him above all men, and ever bewayling his end, so contrary he was in his esteem, and valuation of this great Commander to that of his friend, my Lord of *Essex*, till at last the Queen began to take his decessions for contempts, and confined his residence to the Court, and her own presence, and upon my Lord of *Essex* fall (so confident she was in her own Princely judgement, and opinion she had conceived of his worth and conduct) that she would have this noble Gentleman, and none other, to finish, and bring the *Irish* Warre to a propitious end: for it was a propheticall speech of her own, that it would be his fortune, and his honour to cut the thred of that fatall rebellion, and to bring her in peace to the grave, where she was not deceived, for he atchieved it, but with much pains, and carefulnesse, and not without the fears, and many jealousies of the Court, and times, wherewith the Queens age, and the malignity of her setting times were repleat, and so I come to his dear friend in Court, Master Secretary *Cecill*, whom in his long absence from Court, he adored as his Saint, and Courted for his onely Mecenas, both before and after his departure from Court, and during all the times of his command in *Ireland*, well knowing that it lay in his power, and by a word of his mouth to make or marre him.

Cecill.

SIR *Robert Cecill*, since Earl of *Salisbury*, was the sonne of the Lord *Burleigh*, and the inheritor of his wisedome, and by degrees, Successor of his places and favours, though not of his Lands, for he had Sir *Thomas Cecill* his elder brother, since created Earl of *Exeter*, he was first Secretary of State, then Master of the Wards, and in the last of her raign came to be Lord Treasurer, all which were the steps of his Fathers greatnesse, and of the honour he left to his House. For his person he was not much beholding to nature, though somewhat for his face, which was the best part of his outside, but for his inside, it may be said, and without soloecisme, that he was his Fathers own sonne, and a pregnant proficient in all discipline of State: He was a Courtier from his Cradle, (which might have made him betimes) yet at the age of twenty and upwards, he was much short of his after proof, but exposed, and by change of climate he soon made shew, what he was, and would be: he lived in those times wherein the Queen had most need, and use of men of weight, and amongst able ones, this was a chief, as having his sufficiency from his instructions that begat him, the tutorship of the times, and Court, which were then the Academies of Art and cunning, for such was the Queens condition from the tenth or twelfth of her raigne, that

that ſhe had the happineſſe to ſtand up (whereof there is a former intimation) though invironed with more enemies, and aſſaulted with more dangerous practiſes, then any Prince of her times, and of many ages before, neither muſt we in this her preſervation attribute too much to humane pollices, for that God in his omnipotent providence, had not onely ordained thoſe ſecundary means as inſtruments of the work, but by an evident manifeſtation, that the ſame worke which ſhe acted, was a well pleaſing ſervice of his owne, out of a peculiar care had decreed the protection of the work-Miſtris, and thereunto added his abundant bleſſing upon all, and whatſoever ſhe undertook, which is an obſervation of ſatisfaction to my ſelf, that ſhe was in the right, though to others now breathing under the ſame form, and frame of her Government, it may not ſeem an animadverſion of any worth, but I leave them to the perill of their own folly. And ſo again to this great Maſter of State, and the Staff of the Queens declining age, who though his little crooked perſon could not promiſe any great ſupportation, yet it carryed thereon a head, and a head-peece of a valt content, and therein it ſeems nature was ſo diligent to compleat one, and the beſt part about him, as that to the perfection of his memory, and intellectualls, ſhe took care alſo of his ſences, and to put him in *Lincæi oculi*, or to pleaſure him the more, borrowed of *Argus*, ſo to give unto him a proſpective ſight, and for the reſt of his ſenſitive vertues, his predeceſſor *Walſingham* had left him a receipt, to ſmell out what was done in the conclave, and his good old Father, was ſo well ſeen in the Mathematicks, as that he could tell you throughout all *Spain*, every part, every Ship, with their burthens, whither bound with preparation, what impediments for diverſion, of enterpriſes, Councells, and reſolutions, and that we may ſee (as in a little Map) how docible this little man was; I will preſent a taſte of his abilities. My Lord of *Devonſhire*, (upon the certainty the *Spaniard* would invade *Ireland* with a ſtrong Army) had written very earneſtly to the Queen and the Councell, for ſuch ſupplies to be timely ſent over, that might enable him to march up to the *Spaniard*, if he did land, and follow on his proſecution againſt the Rebels. Sir *Robert Cecill*, (beſides the generall diſpatch of the Councell, as he often did) wrote this in private, for theſe two began then to love dearly.

My Lord, *Out of the abundance of my affection, and the care I have of your well doing; I muſt in private put you out of doubt, (for of fear, I know you cannot be otherwiſe ſenſible then in the way of honour) that the* Spaniard *will*

not come unto you this yeer, for I have it from my own, what preparations are in all his parts, and what he can do, for be confident, he beareth up a reputation by seeming to embrace more then he can gripe, but the next yeer be assured he will cast over unto you some forlorne hopes, which how they may be reinforced beyond his present ability, and his first intention, I cannot, as yet make any certain judgement; but I beleeve out of my intelligence, that you may expect their landing in Munster, *and the more to distract you, in severall places, as at* Kings-Sail, Beer-haven, Baltimore, *where you may be sure (coming from Sea) they will first fortifie and learn the strength of the Rebels, before they dare take the field, howsoever (as I know you will not) lessen not your care, neither your defences, and whatsoever lyes within my power to do you, and the publike service, rest thereof assured.*

And to this I would adde much more, but it may (as it is) suffice to present much, as his abilities in the pen, that he was his crafts Master in forraign intelligence, and for domestique affairs, as he was one of those that sate at the stern to the last of the Queen, so was he none of the least in skill, and in the true use of the Compasse, and so I shall onely vindicate the scandall of his death, and conclude him, for he departed at Saint *Margarets* neer *Marlborough*, in his return from the Bath, as my Lord Viscount *Cranborne*, my Lord *Clifford* his Sonne, and Sonne in Law, my self, and many more can witnesse, but that the day before he swounded in the way, vvas taken out of the Litter, and laid into his Coach, vvas a truth, out of vvhich that falsehood, concerning the manner of his death, had its derivation, though nothing to the purpose, or to the prejudice of his vvorth.

Vere.

SIR *Francis Vere* was of the ancient, and the most noble extract of the Earls of *Oxford*, and it may be a question, whether the nobility of his house, or the honour of his atchievements, might most commend him, but that we have an authentique rule to decide the doubt,

Nam genus & proavos, & quæ non fecimus ipsi Vix ea nostra voco.

For though he vvere an honourable slip of that ancient Tree of nobility (whichwas no disadvantage to his vertue) yet he brought more glory

glory to the name of *Vere* then he took of Bloud, from the Family: He vvas amongſt the Queens ſvvord-men, inferiour to none, but ſuperiour to many, of vvhom it may be ſaid, to ſpeak much of him, vvere the vvay to leave out ſomething that might adde to his praiſe, and to forget more that could adde to his honour. I finde not, that he came much to the Court, for he lived almoſt perpetually in the Camp, but vvhen he did, no man had more of the Queens favour, and none leſſe envyed, for he ſeldome troubled it vvith the jealouſie and allarums of ſupplantation, his vvay vvas another ſort of undermining, they report that the Queen (as ſhe loved Martiall men) would Court this Gentleman, as ſoon as he appeared in her preſence, and ſurely he was a Souldier of great worth and commanded thirty yeers in the ſervice of the States, and twenty yeers, over the *Engliſh* in chief, as the Queens Generall, and he that had ſeen the battail of *Newport* might there beſt have taken him, and his noble Brother, my Lord of *Tilbury* to the life.

Worceſter.

MY Lord of *Worceſter*, I have here put laſt, but not leaſt in the Queens favour, he was of the ancient and noble Bloud of the *Bewfords*, and of her Grandfathers line, by the Mother, which the Queen could never forget, eſpecially where there was a concurrency of old Bloud with fidelity, a mixture which ever ſorted with the Queens nature, and though there might appear ſomething in this Houſe, which might avert her grace, (though not to ſpeak of my Lord himſelf, but with due reverence and honour) I mean contrariety or ſuſpition in religion, yet the Queen ever reſpected this Houſe, and principally this noble Lord, whom ſhe firſt made Maſter of the Horſe, and then admitted of her Councell of State; in his youth (part whereof he ſpent before he came to reſide at Court) he was a very fine Gentleman, and the beſt Horſeman and Tilter of the times, which were then the manlike and noble recreations of the Court, and ſuch as took up the applauſe of men, as well as the praiſe and commendation of Ladies, and when yeers had abated theſe exerciſes of honour, he grew then to be a faithfull and profound Councellor, and as I have placed him laſt, ſo was he the laſt liver of all the Servants of her favour, and had the honour to ſee his renowned Miſtris, and all of them laid in the places of their reſt, and for himſelf, after a life of a very noble and remarkable reputation, he dyed rich, and in a peaceable old age, a fate, (that I make the laſt, and none of the ſlighteſt obſervations) which befell not many of the reſt, for they expired like unto lights blown out, with the ſnuff ſtinking, not commendably extinguiſhed, and with offence to the ſtanders by.

And

And thus have I delivered up this my poor Essay, a little draught of this great Princesse, and her times, with the Servants of her State, and favour; I cannot say, I have finished it, for I know how defective and imperfect it is, as limbed only in the originall nature, not without the active blemishes, and so left it as a task fitter for remote times, and the sallyes of some bolder Pensill to correct that which is amisse, and draw the rest up to life, as for me to have endeavoured it, I took it to consideration how easily I might have dasht in too much of the strain of pollation, and thereby have defaced that little which is done, for I professe I have taken care so to master my Pen, that I might not (*ex animo*, or of set purpose) discolour truth, or any of the parts thereof, otherwise then in concealment. Happily there are some which will not approve of this modesty, but will censure me for pusillanimity, and with great cunning Artists, attempt to draw their line further out at large, and upon this of mine, which may (with somewhat more ease) be effected for that the frame is ready made to their hands, and then happily I could draw one in the midst of theirs, but that modesty in me forbids the defacements of men departed, whose posterity yet remaining, injoyes the merit of their vertues, and do still live in their honour: and I had rather incurre the censure of abruption, then to be conscious, and taken in the manner of sinning by eruption, and of trampling on the graves of persons at rest, which living, we durst not look in the face, nor make our addresses to them, otherwise then with due regards to their honour, and renown to their Vertues.

FINIS.

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